

Capital Hill Reservoir Replacement Project

2024 Factsheet

Medford's drinking water depends on the Capital Hill Reservoirs as the hub of our distribution system, but they have had nearly 100 years of use and weren't built to withstand a major earthquake. Replacing the three aging reservoirs with larger, modern tanks is key to providing a seismically resilient backbone to our water system that will help us recover quickly from natural disasters and continue to serve our growing region long into the future.

Why here?

The Capital Hill Reservoir Facility is at one of the highest points in the city, which helps it to distribute water efficiently by gravity. This location also has an extensive network of pipes that all connect here, making it key to Medford's water supply chain. We're planning to replace the reservoirs in phases so water from Capital Hill will never stop flowing.



Rogue Valley Water Supply Resiliency Program

Capital Hill Reservoir replacement is part of the Rogue Valley Water Supply Resiliency Program, a ten-year effort. It's largely funded by a low-interest federal loan through the EPA's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA), but the money must be used by 2030.

Project timeline

Public Outreach Throughout

2025

Research Phase

2023

Design Phase

2024

Construction Phase

2027

2026

Project Updates

The design for the new reservoirs is now 30% complete. The project team is continuing to work out the details of how the new site will be built. We do know that there will be one reservoir, 31 feet tall and 280 foot diameter, placed further north on the site than the current reservoirs. When complete it will hold up to 12 Million gallons of water.

Construction is scheduled to begin mid 2025 and will last about 3 years. The relocation of the public safety tower needs a six month window for testing before we can proceed with reservoir construction.

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Water for the Next Century